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### **Ariz. state treasurer agrees with budget challenge**

PHOENIX (AP) - State Treasurer Dean Martin says Arizona cities and towns are correct in contending that a requirement that local governments pay nearly \$30 million to help balance the state budget is unconstitutional.

Martin also says in a letter sent Monday to the state Attorney General's Office that the municipalities' lawsuit should be expanded.

Martin says that's because three other budget provisions also violate a constitutional ban on increasing state revenue without two-thirds votes by both legislative chambers.

Gov. Janet Napolitano's office largely drafted the budget, and she and Martin are defendants in the lawsuit filed by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.

Napolitano's office didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

**Associated Press Writer**